

In re Application of DURR, et al.
Application No. 09/801,951

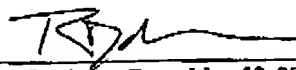
REMARKS

Independent claims 1, 12, 13, 20, 31 and 38 are amended herein to clearly distinguish over new reference U.S. Patent No. 5,832,271 to Premkumar T. Devanbu (hereinafter *Devanbu*). Each of the independent claims 1, 12, 13, 20, 31 and 38 as amended herein includes at least one feature not taught or fairly suggested by *Devanbu* alone or in combination with the prior art of record and is thus patentable for at least this reason.

Each of claims 1, 13, 20, 31 and 38 is in independent form, whereas all of the remaining claims depend directly or indirectly on one of these five independent claims. Amendments herein to the dependent claims are made for consistency with the amendments to the independent claims 13 and 31. The dependent claims are allowable for at least the same reasons that the five independent claims 1, 13, 20, 31 and 38 are allowable in that the dependent claims incorporate the features of the independent claims. Nevertheless, the dependent claims further define subject matter not shown or rendered obvious by the prior art of record. Because the independent claims are allowable over the prior art of record, applicants do not believe remarks addressing this further subject matter are necessary herein.

The application is considered in good and proper form for allowance, and the examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue. If, in the opinion of the examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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